

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/633,220

Examiner

Alfred Basichas

Applicant(s)

WONG, CHI LAM

Art Unit

3749

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed 08/02/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

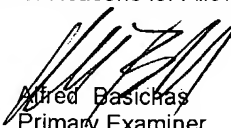
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Alfred Basichas
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3749

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, 6th line, the term "characterized in that it also includes an" has been replaced with --wherein the lighter further includes a--.

Claim 2, 1st line, the term "characterized in that" has been replaced with --wherein--.

Claim 3, 1st line, the term "characterized in that" has been replaced with --wherein--.

Claim 4, 1st line, the term "characterized in that" has been replaced with --wherein--.

Claim 5, 1st line, the term "characterized in that" has been replaced with --wherein--.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicants claim, among other things, a lighter comprising a lighter housing, a storage within said housing having an outlet valve, an inlet valve and a gas chamber for storing flammable liquid gas, an outlet gas control bar for controlling gas supply from said storage, at least an ignition chamber connected to a gas passage of said storage, at least an ignition means, a head cover for protecting said ignition chamber, wherein the lighter further includes a middle seat provided between said outlet valve and said ignition chamber to support said ignition chamber, and said storage has its inlet valve provided besides said outlet valve and the port of said inlet valve arranged upward, and on the core of said inlet valve there is also provided with a gear adjustment mechanism, and on the case of said outlet valve there is provided with a gear engaged with said gear adjustment mechanism.

The prior art of record, taken alone or in combination therewith, does not disclose nor make obvious the invention as claimed by applicants. It should be noted that applicant's use of the term means does not satisfy the requirements under 35 USC 112, 6th paragraph. The term has been read broadly, such as member, device, component, etc.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alfred Basichas whose telephone number is 703 306 3476. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday during regular business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ira Lazarus can be reached on 703 308 1935. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703 872 9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308 0861.

May 11, 2004


Alfred Basichas
Primary Examiner
703 306 3476